



REDWING
ECOLOGICAL SERVICES, INC.

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March 6, 2009

Mr. Jesse Robinson
WQC Section
Kentucky Division of Water
200 Fair Oaks Lane
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

**Subject: Response to KDOW Request for Additional Information
Weller Farm Expansion
Bullitt County, Kentucky
Redwing Project 08-033
USACE ID No. LRL-2008-00683
KDOW AI No. 102772**

Dear Mr. Robinson:

Redwing Ecological Services, Inc. (Redwing), on behalf of Salt River Development Company, LLC (SRDC), is pleased to submit this additional information as requested by the Kentucky Division of Water (KDOW) in a letter dated February 18, 2009 regarding the Weller Farm Expansion in Bullitt County, Kentucky. The KDOW's requests are summarized below (in bold italics) with a corresponding response to each.

Please develop a contingency plan for the acquisition of suitable compensatory mitigation in the event that the Shepherd's Crossing Mitigation Site does not fully meet success criteria. In particular, if at the end of the required five year monitoring period there is not sufficient wetland acreage available to compensate for both the Taylor Avenue, LLC impacts and the Salt River Development Company, LLC impacts, what action will be undertaken to ensure that adequate compensatory mitigation is provided?

The owners of the two projects (SRDC for the Weller Farm Expansions and Taylor Avenue, LLC for the Shepherd's Crossing project) will be held independently responsible for meeting mitigation requirements of their respective permits, with Taylor Avenue having the first priority if less than the total required number of wetland acres are successfully established. Thus, of the total area of wetlands established at the end of the project, Taylor Avenue will claim the first 6.0 acres and SRDC the following 1.9 acres. By way of example, three potential scenarios are outlined below (this assumes all other success criteria are met):

WETLAND ESTABLISHED	RESOLUTION
7.9 acres to 9.5 acres	Both projects are complete
6.0 to 7.9 acres	Taylor Avenue (Shepherd's Crossing) is complete SRDC (Weller Farm) must provide for shortfall of up to 1.9 acres
Less than 6.0 acres	Taylor Avenue must provide for shortfall of up to 6.0 acres SRDC must provide for shortfall of 1.9 acres

Compensation for any wetland acreage shortfalls will be provided through payment of in-lieu fees or purchase of mitigation bank credits, unless suitable adjustments to the on-site mitigation area are approved by both the KDOW and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). These adjustments would then require additional monitoring to ensure success.

Standards for successful wetland mitigation have changed since the 2004 authorization of the Shepherd's Crossing Mitigation site. In order to ensure consistency with the 2009 standard for wetland mitigation success, the following performance standard will be applied to the entire Shepherd's Crossing Mitigation Site:

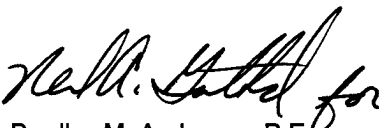
Less than 10% of herbaceous species measured in percent coverage shall be exotic/invasive at the end of five years of monitoring. Less than 10% of the mean density of stems shall consist of exotic/invasive species at the end of five years of monitoring. Exotic/invasive species shall be defined as those listed under Tier 1 ("Severe Threat") and Tier 2 ("Significant Threat") by the Kentucky Exotic Pest Plant Council

Because of the connectedness of the mitigation areas and the rate at which Tier 1 and Tier 2 exotic/invasive species spread, this performance standard must reasonably be applied to all mitigation areas located on the Shepherd's Crossing Mitigation Site.

We agree and accept this additional performance standard relating to field conditions over the entire site, with the stipulation that it only be applied to the final success of the Weller Farms project and will not change the already permitted Shepherd's Crossing project. If there is greater than 10 % cover of exotic/invasive species at the end of the monitoring period, SRDC will be responsible to address this issue (for the entire mitigation area) prior to release of Weller Farm's permit, but the Shepherd's Crossing permit can be released from further monitoring and closed (assuming all other requirements have been met). This approach allows the newer performance standard to be applied to the new Weller Farm permit without altering the existing Shepherd's Crossing permit.

We appreciate the willingness of the KDOW and the USACE to work with us to resolve this mitigation issue and look forward to establishing a diverse wetland complex along the Salt River floodplain in Shepherdsville's Frank E. Simon Park. Please contact Brad Anderson or Ron Thomas of Redwing at (502) 625-3009 with any questions regarding this submittal or if you need additional information during your preparation of the permit documents.

Sincerely,



Bradley M. Anderson, P.E.
Project Engineer II



Ronald L. Thomas
Principal
Senior Ecologist

File:07-104/Reports/MitResp 3-6-09

cc: Ms. Layna Thrush – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District
Mr. Jim Rice – Salt River Development Company, LLC
Mr. Justin Ray – Mindel Scott and Associates, Inc.

Ron says that
"entire
mitigation
area"
refers to
the 9.5
total acres.